

All Regional Engineers

Michael L. Hine

Special Provision for Self-Consolidating Concrete for Cast-In-Place
Construction

August 5, 2005

This special provision was developed by the Bureau of Materials and Physical Research. This special provision should be inserted in all contracts where Check Sheet #39, Quality Control/Quality Assurance of Concrete Mixtures, is used.

The districts should include the BDE Check Sheet marked with the applicable special provisions for the November 18, 2005 and subsequent lettings. The Project Development and Implementation Section will include a copy in the contract.

This special provision will be available on the transfer directory August 5, 2005.

80152m

SELF-CONSOLIDATING CONCRETE FOR CAST-IN-PLACE CONSTRUCTION (BDE)

Effective: November 1, 2005

Definition. Self-consolidating concrete is a flowable mixture that does not require mechanical vibration for consolidation.

Usage. Self-consolidating concrete may be used for cast-in-place concrete construction items involving Class MS and SI concrete. Self-consolidating concrete may also be used for drilled shafts.

Materials. Materials shall be according to the following.

- (a) Self-Consolidating Admixtures. The self-consolidating admixture system shall consist of either a high range water-reducing admixture only or a high range water-reducing admixture combined with a separate viscosity modifying admixture. The one or two component admixture system shall be capable of producing a concrete that can flow around reinforcement and consolidate under its own weight without additional effort and without segregation.

The high range water-reducing admixture shall comply with the requirements of AASHTO M 194, Type F.

The viscosity modifying admixture will be evaluated according to the test methods and mix design proportions referenced in AASHTO M 194, except the following physical requirements shall be met:

- (1) For initial and final set times, the allowable deviation of the test concrete from the reference concrete shall not be more than 1.0 hour earlier or 1.5 hours later.
 - (2) For compressive and flexural strengths, the test concrete shall be a minimum of 90 percent of the reference concrete at 3, 7, and 28 days.
 - (3) The length change of the test concrete shall be a maximum 135 percent of the reference concrete. However, if the length change of the reference concrete is less than 0.030 percent, the length change of the test concrete shall be a maximum 0.010 percentage units greater than the reference concrete.
 - (4) The relative durability factor of the test concrete shall be a minimum 80 percent.
- (b) Fine Aggregate. A fine aggregate used alone in the mix design shall not have an expansion greater than 0.30 percent per ASTM C 1260. For a blend of two or more fine aggregates, the resulting blend shall not have an expansion greater than 0.30 percent.

The aggregate blend expansion will be calculated as follows:

Aggregate Blend Expansion = $(a/100 \times A) + (b/100 \times B) + (c/100 \times C) + \dots$ etc.

Where: a, b, c, ... = percent of aggregate blend

A, B, C, ... = aggregate expansion according to ASTM C 1260

Mix Design Criteria. Article 1020.04 of the Standard Specifications shall apply except as follows:

- (a) The minimum cement factor shall be according to Article 1020.04 of the Standard Specifications or as specified. The maximum cement factor shall be 418 kg/cu m (7.05 cwt/cu yd). The cement factor shall not be reduced if a water-reducing, retarding, or high range water-reducing admixture is used.
- (b) The maximum allowable water/cement ratio shall be according to Article 1020.04 of the Standard Specifications or 0.44, whichever is lower.
- (c) The slump requirements shall not apply.
- (d) The coarse aggregate gradations shall be CA 11, CA 13, CA 14, CA 16, or a blend of these gradations. CA 11 shall not be used for drilled shafts or when the Engineer approves a horizontal flow distance greater than 9 m (30 ft). The fine aggregate proportion shall be a maximum 50 percent by mass (weight) of the total aggregate used.
- (e) The slump flow range shall be ± 50 mm (± 2 in.) of the Contractor target value, and within the overall Department range of 510 mm (20 in.) minimum to 710 mm (28 in.) maximum.
- (f) The visual stability index shall be a maximum of 1.
- (g) The J-ring value shall be a maximum of 100 mm (4 in.). The Contractor may specify a lower maximum in the mix design.
- (h) The L-box blocking ratio shall be a minimum of 60 percent. The Contractor may specify a higher minimum in the mix design.
- (i) The column segregation index shall be a maximum 15 percent.
- (j) The hardened visual stability index shall be a maximum of 1.

Test Methods. Illinois Test Procedures SCC-1, SCC-2, SCC-3, SCC-4, SCC-5, SCC-6, and Illinois Modified AASHTO T 22, 23, 121, 126, 141, 152, 177, 196, and 309 shall be used for testing of self-consolidating concrete mixtures.

Mix Design Submittal. The Contractor's Level III PCC Technician shall submit a mix design according to the "Portland Cement Concrete Level III Technician" course manual, except target slump information is not applicable and will not be required. However, a slump flow target range

shall be submitted. In addition, the design mortar factor may exceed 1.10 and durability test data will be waived.

A J-ring value shall be submitted if a lower mix design maximum will apply. An L-box blocking ratio shall be submitted if a higher mix design minimum will apply. The Contractor shall also indicate applicable construction items for the mix design.

Trial mixture information will also be required by the Engineer. A trial mixture is a batch of concrete tested by the Contractor to verify the Contractor's mix design will meet specification requirements. Trial mixture information shall include test results as specified in the "Portland Cement Concrete Level III Technician" course manual. Test results shall also include slump flow, visual stability index, J-ring value, L-box blocking ratio, column segregation index, and hardened visual stability index. For the trial mixture, the slump flow shall be near the midpoint of the proposed slump flow target range.

Trial Batch. A minimum 1.5 cu m (2 cu yd) trial batch shall be produced, and the self-consolidating concrete admixture dosage proposed by the Contractor shall be used. The slump flow shall be within 25 mm (1.0 in.) of the maximum slump flow range specified by the Contractor, and the air content shall be within the top half of the allowable specification range.

The trial batch shall be scheduled a minimum of 21 calendar days prior to anticipated use, and shall be performed in the presence of the Engineer.

The Contractor shall provide the labor, equipment, and materials to test the concrete. The mixture will be evaluated by the Engineer for strength, air content, slump flow, visual stability index, J-ring value, L-box blocking ratio, column segregation index, and hardened visual stability index.

Upon review of the test data from the trial batch, the Engineer will verify or deny the use of the mix design and notify the Contractor. Verification by the Engineer will include the Contractor's target slump flow range. If applicable, the Engineer will verify the Contractor's maximum J-ring value and minimum L-box blocking ratio.

A new trial batch will be required whenever there is a change in the source of any component material, proportions, dosage of the self-consolidating concrete admixture, batch sequence, mixing speed, mixing time, or as determined by the Engineer. The testing criteria for the new trial batch will be determined by the Engineer.

When necessary, the trial batches shall be disposed of according to Article 202.03 of the Standard Specifications.

Mixing Portland Cement Concrete. In addition to Article 1020.11 of the Standard Specifications, the mixing time for central-mixed concrete shall not be reduced as a result of a mixer performance test. Truck-mixed or shrink-mixed concrete shall be mixed in a truck mixer for a minimum of 100 revolutions.

Wash water, if used, shall be completely discharged from the drum or container before the succeeding batch is introduced.

The batch sequence, mixing speed, and mixing time shall be appropriate to prevent cement balls and mix foaming for central-mixed, truck-mixed, and shrink-mixed concrete.

Falsework and Forms. In addition to Articles 503.05 and 503.06 of the Standard Specifications, the Contractor shall design falsework and forms for full hydrostatic head pressure of the concrete. Forms shall be tight to prevent leakage of fluid concrete.

Placing and Consolidating. Concrete placement and consolidations shall be according to Article 503.07 of the Standard Specifications except as follows:

Revise the third paragraph of Article 503.07 of the Standard Specifications to read:

“Open troughs and chutes shall extend as nearly as practicable to the point of deposit. The drop distance of concrete shall not exceed 1.5 m (5 ft). If necessary, a tremie shall be used to meet this requirement. The maximum distance of horizontal flow from the point of deposit shall be 9 m (30 ft), unless approved otherwise by the Engineer. For drilled shafts, free fall placement will not be permitted.”

Delete the sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth paragraphs of Article 503.07 of the Standard Specifications.

Revise the eleventh paragraph of Article 503.07 of the Standard Specifications to read:

“Concrete shall be placed in continuous layers. When it is necessary by reason of an emergency to place less than a complete horizontal layer in one operation, such layer shall terminate in a vertical bulkhead. In order that the concrete will not be injured and that there shall be no line of separation between the batches, the separate batches shall follow each other closely as recommended by the manufacturer of the self-consolidating concrete admixture(s). In no case shall the interval of time between the placing of successive batches be greater than 20 minutes. Concrete shall be rodded with a piece of lumber or conduit if the material has lost its fluidity prior to placement of additional concrete. Any other method for restoring the fluidity of the concrete shall be approved by the Engineer. If ready-mixed concrete is used, the requirements of Article 1020.11 shall apply. Delivery of mixed concrete shall be regulated so that there will not be an interruption in the placing of concrete in the forms, as recommended by the manufacturer of the self-consolidating concrete admixture(s). In no case shall the interval of time be greater than 20 minutes.”

Quality Control by Contractor at Plant. The specified test frequencies for aggregate gradation, aggregate moisture, air content, unit weight/yield, and temperature shall be performed as indicated in the contract plans.

Slump flow, visual stability index, and J-ring or L-box tests shall be performed as needed to control production. The column segregation index test and hardened visual stability index test will not be required to be performed at the plant.

Quality Control by Contractor at Jobsite. The specified test frequencies for air content, strength, and temperature shall be performed as indicated in the contract plans.

Slump flow, visual stability index, and J-ring or L-box tests shall be performed on the first two truck deliveries of the day, and every 40 cu m (50 cu yd) thereafter. The Contractor shall select either the J-ring or L-box test for jobsite testing.

The column segregation index test will not be required to be performed at the jobsite. The hardened visual stability index test shall be performed on the first truck delivery of the day, and every 230 cu m (300 cu yd) thereafter. Slump flow, visual stability index, J-ring value or L-box blocking ratio, air content, and concrete temperature shall be recorded for each hardened visual stability index test.

The Contractor shall retain all hardened visual stability index cut cylinder specimens until the Engineer notifies the Contractor that the specimens may be discarded.

If mix foaming or other potential detrimental material is observed during placement or at the completion of the pour, the material shall be removed while the concrete is still plastic.

Quality Assurance by Engineer at Plant. For air content and aggregate gradation, quality assurance independent sample testing and split sample testing will be performed as indicated in the contract plans.

For slump flow, visual stability index, and J-ring or L-box tests, quality assurance independent sample testing and split sample testing will be performed as determined by the Engineer.

Quality Assurance by Engineer at Jobsite. For air content and strength, quality assurance independent sample testing and split sample testing will be performed as indicated in the contract plans.

For slump flow, visual stability index, J-ring or L-box, and hardened visual stability index tests, quality assurance independent sample testing will be performed as determined by the Engineer.

For slump flow and visual stability index quality assurance split sample testing, the Engineer will perform tests at the beginning of the project on the first three tests performed by the Contractor. Thereafter, a minimum of ten percent of total tests required of the Contractor will be performed per plant, which will include a minimum of one test per mix design. The acceptable limit of precision will be 25 mm (1 in.) for slump flow, and a limit of precision will not apply to the visual stability index.

For the J-ring or the L-box quality assurance split sample testing, a minimum of 80 percent of the total tests required of the Contractor will be witnessed by the Engineer per plant, which will

include a minimum of one witnessed test per mix design. The Engineer reserves the right to conduct quality assurance split sample testing. The acceptable limit of precision will be 25 mm (1 in.) for the J-ring value and ten percent for the L-box blocking ratio.

For each hardened visual stability index test performed by the Contractor, the cut cylinders shall be presented to the Engineer for determination of the rating. The Engineer reserves the right to conduct quality assurance split sample testing. A limit of precision will not apply to the hardened visual stability index.

80152